

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 5-8 have been amended to obviate the objections thereto and/or to further clarify the concepts of the present invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated January 2, 2009. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

In the Action, claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, it was alleged that it unclear whether the subject lithium tantalate crystals are formed by the Czochralski method. Reconsideration of this rejection in view of the above claim amendments and the following comments is respectfully requested.

In the subject Action, it was suggested that the phrase "worked in the state of a substrate" be deleted. It appears that this deletion would be likely to cause misunderstanding as though "a lithium tantalate crystal" itself grown by the Czochralski method was a subject to reduction treatment. That is, it is apparently unclear whether or not this "lithium tantalate crystal" is a lithium tantalate crystal "worked in the state of a substrate."

In view of the above, the phrase "a lithium tantalate crystal worked in the state of a substrate" recited in each of present claims 5-8 has been amended to recite "a lithium tantalate crystal grown

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by the Czochralski method and worked in the state of a substrate." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 of claims 5-8 as amended is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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